

Amendment
Serial No. 10/719,020
Attorney Docket No. 032130

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 are pending in this application, of which claim 1 has been amended. No new claims have been added.

(1) Claims 1 to 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,888,574 (Rice et al.) in view of Kazanovtse, et al. (WPI World Patent Information Derwent, Vol. 29).

Claim 1 has been amended, which is supported at page 7, lines 3-8. Also, Applicants herewith file a Declaration under 37C.F.R.§1.132 presenting Comparative Examples 3 and 4.

Neither Rice et al. nor Kazanovtse discloses a sulfamic acid or its salt at a concentration of 300 to 600g/l, as recited in amended claim 1. Compared with Examples 1-5 at page 18 of the specification with Comparative Examples 3 and 4 included in the declaration under 37C.F.R.§1.132 filed herewith, Examples 1-5 are superior at least in view of the uniform appearance, 3σ P%, 3σ thickness and 3σ resistance. Since there is found criticality and unexpected results in the claimed range, the obviousness rejection should be made moot. Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

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(2) The specification in Table 1 at page 18 has been amended. As declared in the declaration 37 CFR §1.132, the 3σ resistance value for Comparative Example 1 should have been "26.0," instead of "6.0." The error occurred without deceptive intent, and amended number is supported at the priority document.

(3) In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants submit that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date. If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case. If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP



Shigeji Yoshizaki

Limited Recognition

Telephone: (202) 822-1100

Faxsimile: (202) 822-1111

SY/mt

Attachment: Limited Recognition
Declaration under 37C.F.R. §1.132
Petition for Extension of Time